

REMARKS

Claims 25-48 are pending in this Application. Claims 49-67 have been previously canceled without prejudice. In the Office Action mailed June 19, 2006, the Examiner rejected Claims 25-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naji et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,030,477) in view of admitted prior art (e.g., Specification para. [0031] and Table 1) with or without Wingerson (US Patent No. 6,419,788).

With this paper, Applicants respectfully request entry of amended Claims 25 and 33, amended to include "wherein the elevated temperature is between about 65 degrees Centigrade to about 120 degrees Centigrade," which, as pointed out by the Examiner in his statement in paragraph 2 of the Office Action mailed June 19, 2006, is not suggested or disclosed by Naji, by the admitted prior art or by Wingerson. On pages 2-3 of the same Office Action, the Examiner admits that Naji does not teach an elevated temperature washing process. In fact, Applicant points out that Naji does not teach or suggest any elevated temperature washing process. On page 3 of the same Office Action, the Examiner points out that Wingerson teaches an elevated temperature of 180 degrees to 240 degrees Centigrade, a statement which Applicant agrees with. Applicants further point out that no other elevated temperature is disclosed by Wingerson. In particular, Wingerson does not suggest or disclose an elevated temperature between about 65 degrees Centigrade to about 120 degrees Centigrade as claimed in Applicants' amended Claims 25 and 33. On pages 3-4 of the same Office Action, the Examiner points out that the admitted prior art teaches an elevated temperature of 55 to 60 degrees Centigrade.

Applicant also agrees with this statement. Applicants further point out that the admitted prior art does not suggest or disclose any other temperature. In particular, the admitted prior art does not suggest or disclose an elevated temperature between about 65 degrees Centigrade to about 120 degrees Centigrade as claimed in Applicants' amended Claims 25 and 33. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claimed invention as a whole would have not been obvious over Naji in view of the admitted prior art, with or without Wingerson, because neither Naji, the admitted prior art, nor Wingerson teach each and every element of Applicants' claimed invention or Applicants' claimed invention as a whole. The lack of teaching in Naji cannot be overcome by combining with the admitted prior art with or without Wingerson because neither of these latter references (i.e., the admitted prior art or Wingerson) teach or suggest the deficiencies in Naji, such as an elevated temperature between about 65 degrees Centigrade to about 120 degrees Centigrade. Furthermore, there is no suggestion or motivation, in the Naji reference itself nor to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify Naji or to combine its teachings with that of the admitted prior art with or without Wingerson, because none of the references, even if combined, are able to teach Applicants' claimed invention as a whole and all lack a teaching of an elevated temperature between about 65 degrees Centigrade to about 120 degrees Centigrade. Accordingly, should such references be combined, they are unable to provide Applicants' claimed invention, because they all lack such a teaching on their own. For this reason, there is no reasonable expectation of success, as is required for a showing of obviousness. Therefore, Applicants submit that amended Claims 25 and 33 are patentably distinct from

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the cited references and respectfully request entry and allowance of such amended claims and all claims depending therefrom.

Support for amended Claims 25 and 33 may be found throughout the specification, see, for example, para. [0008], [0024], [0027] and [0031].

With this Amendment and Response, Applicants are intending to bring prosecution to a speedy conclusion. No new matter has been included with this reply and no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search have been introduced with the amendments set forth herein.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is in condition for allowance, and pursuant to the filing of this Amendment and a Request for Continued Examination, Applicants earnestly seek such allowance of Claims 25-48 as provided in the Listing of Claims beginning on page 3 of this paper. Should the Examiner have questions, comments, or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this Application, please contact Applicants' representative at 214.999.4330. Applicants, through their representative, stand ready to conduct a telephone interview with the Examiner to review this Application if the Examiner believes that such an interview would assist in the advancement of this Application.

To the extent that any further fees are required during the pendency of this Application, including petition fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees, including, without limitation, any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 07-0153 of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP and reference Attorney Docket No. 129843-1022. In the event that any additional time is needed for this filing, or any additional time in excess of that requested in a petition for an extension of time, please consider this a petition for an extension of time for any needed extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 or any other section or provision of Title 37. Applicants respectfully request that the Commissioner grant any such petition and authorize the Commissioner to charge the Deposit Account

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referenced above. Please credit any overpayments to this same  
Deposit Account.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Office  
Action made final and mailed June 19, 2006.

**Please direct all correspondence to the practitioner listed  
below at Customer No. 60148.**

Respectfully submitted,



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